



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 4/8/2003

GAIN Report #TH3040

Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2003

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Report Highlights:

Export prices remained unchanged in line with domestic prices.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1], TH

Indicative Price (Week Ending Apr 8):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	450	430	499	477	460	445	480	463	462
WR 100 B	199	203	202	201	198	198	197	200	200
PB 5%	187	195	193	191	193	193	185	191	191
WR 5%	194	198	198	195	193	193	192	195	195
WR 10%	190	193	195	190	190	190	187	191	191
WR 15%	185	188	192	183	187	187	182	186	187
WR 25%	180	181	187	176	172	171	177	178	179
WR 35%	176	176	185	173	168	168	172	174	176
A 1 SUP	143	146	143	143	142	141	139	142	143
A 1 SPEC	141	144	142	141	141	NQ	138	141	142
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grades of rice were unchanged in line with current high domestic prices. Trade sources reported that markets for Thai white rices and parboiled rices remained quiet as cheaper Vietnamese white rices and Indian parboiled rices still dominated the markets.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
MAR 2	92,369	85,646	708	1,256
MAR 9	47,288	76,348	755	1,384
MAR 16	72,278	72,019	827	1,541
MAR 23	77,084	72,255	905	1,666
MAR 30	74,718	67,842	979	1,785
APR 6	98,474	80,639	1,078	1,874

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002 do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Mar 31 - Apr 6, 2003, totaled 98,474 tons, up 23,756 tons from the previous week's total and up 17,836 tons from the four week moving average of 80,639 tons. This sharp increase could be linked to the acceleration of shipment due to the coming long holiday of Thai New Year festival in the middle of April. Exports during Jan 1- Apr 6, 2003, totaled 1,078 thousand tons, compared with 1,874 thousand tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2002.

According to Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan1 - Mar 28, 2003 amounted to 1,549,479 tons, down 10.8 percent from 1,736,716 tons during the same period in 2002.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Mar 17-21, Mar 24-28 and Mar 31 - Apr 4, 2003 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Mar 17-21	Mar 24-28	Mar 31- Apr 4
weekly sales	65,045	57,899	141,487
4 week sum	314,389	296,191	338,762
4 week mov avg.	78,597	74,048	84,691
Total weekly sales	1,001,752	1,059,651	1,201,138